

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An antibody or fragment thereof which is reactive with HIV-1 neutralizing antibody 2F5 (ECACC Accession No. 90091704) and which inhibits or prevents the HIV-1 neutralization activity of antibody 2F5 and/or the binding of antibody 2F5 to gp41 of HIV-1, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof is free from an amino acid sequence ELDKWA (SEQ ID NO1) of the core epitope of antibody 2F5, and from any equivalent variant or homologue of said core epitope selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 12.

2. (Original) The antibody or fragment thereof according to claim 1, which inhibits or prevents binding of antibody 2F5 to proteins or peptides that comprise the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO. 1 ELDKWA or equivalent variant or homologue thereof, preferably selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 12.

3. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to claim 1 or 2, which upon administration to a mammal elicits Ab3-type antibodies that have HIV-1 neutralizing activity, and/or that competes with antibody 2F5 for binding to proteins or peptides that comprise the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO. 1 (ELDKWA) or an equivalent variant or homologue thereof, preferably selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 12.

4. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the antibody is an Ab2-type antibody which is anti-idiotypic to antibody 2F5.

5. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any~~

~~one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, wherein the antibody is monoclonal and is produced by hybridoma cell line 3H6 (ECACC Acc. No. 01100279).

6. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any of one claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, wherein the antibody has a heavy chain variable region according to SEQ ID NO 13 and/or a light chain variable region according to SEQ ID NO 14.

7. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~claim 1, in the form of either a chimeric mouse/human antibody or fragment thereof, or a humanized version of a mouse antibody.

8. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, which is associated, preferably coupled, linked, or fused, with an immunoactive molecule, more preferably with a molecule that increases or intensifies a B cell response, and most preferably with a cytokine such as interleukin-4 (IL-4) or interleukin-15 (IL-15).

9. (Currently Amended) The antibody or fragment thereof according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~claim 1, for use as a screening tool or a diagnostic or therapeutic agent.

10. (Currently Amended) A hybridoma cell line producing an antibody according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1.

11. (Original) The hybridoma cell line according to claim 10, which is cell line 3H6 (deposited at PHLS, Porton Down, Salisbury, UK, under ECACC Acc. No. 01100279).

12. (Currently Amended) Use of an antibody or fragment thereof defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition, particularly a vaccine, for prophylactic or therapeutic application against HIV-1

infection.

13. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, particularly a vaccine, comprising an antibody or antibody fragment defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Currently Amended) A mixture, particularly a pharmaceutical composition or a vaccine, comprising at least one Ab2 anti-idiotypic antibody or fragment thereof as defined in ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1, in combination with at least one fusion protein ~~as defined in claim 8~~.

15. (Currently Amended) An Ab3-type antibody or fragment thereof which is reactive with an antibody or antibody fragment according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~claim 1 and which competes with antibody 2F5 for binding to gp451 of HIV1 or to proteins or peptides that comprise the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO. 1 (ELDKWA) or an equivalent variant or homologue thereof, preferably selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2 to SEQ ID NO 12.

16. (Original) The Ab3-type antibody or antibody fragment according to claim 15 which neutralizes HIV-1.

17. (Currently Amended) The Ab3-type antibody or fragment thereof according to claim ~~15 or 16~~ for use as a screening tool or a diagnostic or therapeutic agent.

18. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an Ab3-type antibody or antibody fragment according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 17~~claim 15, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.